パーフェクトワールド

perfect world

presents
KODANSHA COMICS KISS

有賀リエ

3

perfect world

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Perfect World

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ch.10

The rift created by two hearts

KAWANA

...
AYÜ-
KAWA

KOR-
EEDA-
KUN...
?

WE'RE AT THE HOSPITAL.

I ASKED HIM TO COME.

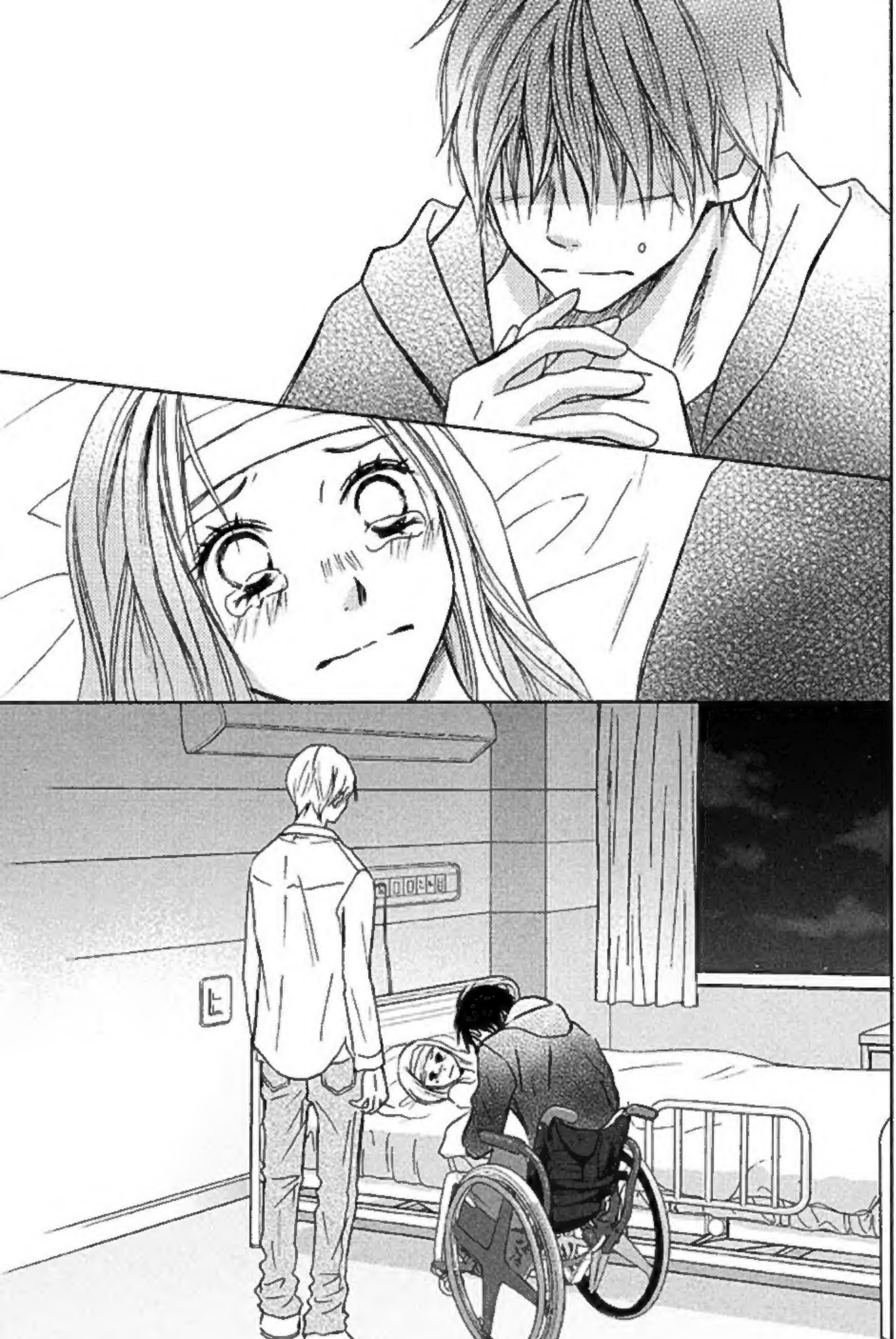
...YOU ACCIDENT-ALLY FELL FROM THE PLATFORM.

I ALSO REMEM-BER YOU ---

...I RE-MEMB-ER... AT THAT MOMENT, EVERY-THING WENT BLACK ...

STRETCH-ING OUT BOTH HANDS TO ME...

Holds tight



Patter

Patter

TSUGUMI !!

.....

SFX: BURSTS IN.

TSUG-UMI!!

ARE THE INJUR-IES SERI-OUS?!

!!

DAD,

MUM ...

SHE HAS A LEG FRAC-TURE.

SHE WAS LUCKY THAT HER HEAD ONLY SUFFERED FROM A FLESH WOUND.

ARE YOU THE KOREEDA -SAN THAT CONTACT- ED US OVER THE PHONE?

THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP THIS TIME ...!!

...AND THEN YOU MUST BE AYUKAWA -SAN.

F-FIRST OF ALL, PLEASE CALM DOWN, MUM...

AYU- KAWA HE...

DURING THE NEW YEARS WHEN SHE MENTIONED YOU, I ALREADY HAD AN UNEASY FEELING.

WHAT EXACTLY HAPPEN- ED?!

WHY IS MY DAUGHTER LYING IN SUCH A PLACE?!

EVER SINCE TSUGUMI STARTED DATING YOU, SHE SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON.

Tears up

GRADUAL-LY NOT PICK-ING UP CALLS FROM FAMILY

AND NO LONGER CARING ABOUT HER FATHER'S CIRCUM-STANCES LIKE BEFORE.

NOW IT HAS EVEN PROGRESS-ED TO THE POINT

WHERE SHE HAS FALLEN FROM A TRAIN PLAT-FORM..

I FIND IT SO HARD TO BELIEVE ...!!

IF SHE CAN'T STAND FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE,

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY? !!

Realisation

WHAT SHE SAID IS CORRECT.

CALM DOWN. THIS IS A HOSPITAL. DON'T MAKE A SCENE.

sniff

.....

FOR CAUSING HER TO ENDURE SUCH A SERIOUS INJURY,

I AM EXTREMELY SORRY...!!

AT THAT TIME, I WAS OBVIOUSLY BY HER SIDE, YET COULD DO NOTHING BUT WATCH AS SHE FELL.

THIS IS ALL MY FAULT. I DIDN'T PROTECT HER WELL ENOUGH.

...THE CAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT IS SOMETHING WE DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND YET.

YOU SUDDENLY APOLOGISING WILL PUT IS IN A SPOT.

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY, LEAVE IT FOR ANOTHER DAY.

...OKAY

BUT ...

CAN YOU PLEASE GO HOME FOR TODAY?

I WISH TO HAVE A FAMILY DISCUSSION, AND DO NOT WANT OUTSIDERS.

I WILL

ALSO BE TAKING MY LEAVE.

.....

THEN I WILL TAKE MY LEAVE.

sits heavily...

A-

AYU ...

SHUTS DOOR

MUM... SORRY,

FOR MAKING YOU WORRY ...

MOM LOOKS REALLY FATIGUED ...

EVEN IF YOU STAY HERE WITH A GOOD JOB AND GOOD LIFE, IT WON'T GO SMOOTHLY RIGHT?

BUT ...

TSUGUMI, SINCE IT'S A FRACTURE YOU'LL PROBABLY NEED TO STAY IN THE HOSPITAL FOR 2-3 WEEKS.

I WISH FOR US TO BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU AT ANY TIME.

ONCE YOUR CONDITION IS STABLE, IMMEDIATE-LY TRANS-FER TO MATSUMOTO HOSPITAL

I EVEN GAVE AYUKAWA TROUBLE...

WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING LATELY TO CAUSE EVERYONE TO BE IN A FRENZY BECAUSE OF ME

I'LL PUT IT ON HOLD TEMPO-RARILY.

EVEN THOUGH I ISSUED A CHALLENGE TO YOU PREVIOUSLY,

---- THANKS FOR TODAY.

NIGHT ENTRANCE

IF YOU HADN'T COME...

Clatter

---- IS THIS THE SO-CALLED "PURE LOVE"?

...THE FEELINGS BETWEEN YOU AND KAWANA.

BUT,

SOMETHING THAT IS TOO BEAUTIFUL WILL LET ONE FEEL IT'S UNREAL.

AS A THIRD -PARTY OBSERV- ER,

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK: COULD SOMETHING THIS BEAUTIFUL JUST BE LIKE THE BRIEF BLOOMING OF A FLOWER?

"BEAUTIFUL", IS IT?

Whoosh

I JUST GOT A CALL FROM CRAN-BERRIES

SAYING THAT KAWANA'S JUNIOUR WILL BE TAKING OVER HER WORK.

I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS, AYUKAWA.

...I AL-READY KNOW.

THERE'S NO NEED TO APOLO-GISE.

MORE IMPORT-ANTLY,

Click...

I AM TRULY SORRY.

TO HAVE SUCH A SERIOUS INCIDENT AFFECT THE WORK,

.....

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO...

YOU WOULDN'T BE PLAN-NING TO TAKE ALL THE BLAME ONTO YOUR-SELF THEN BREAK UP WITH HER RIGHT?

IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, THAT WAS THE SORT OF BELIEF I CARRIED WITH ME.

I CANNOT LET OTHERS BEAR THE PAIN AND SUFFERING THAT COMES WITH A DISABILITY...

I SEVERED ANY THOUGHTS OF GETTING A GIRLFRIEND.

AFTER THE ACCIDENT,

I RE-UNITED WITH KAWANA.

YET, SOON AFTER THAT,

COMPLETELY UNLIKE OTHERS, SHE DIDN'T SAY PRETTY WORDS TO TRY AND MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

AFTER KNOWING I WAS A PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED PERSON, SHE ONLY BECAME PANICKY.

THAT TIME I FELT SHE REALLY WAS AN IDIOT WHO COULD NOT LIE.

IS STILL LIKE BEFORE... BOTH FRANK & SINCERE.

THAT GIRL

"I DEFINITELY DON'T HAVE THAT SORT OF THOUGHT..."

AFTER THAT, KAWANA

WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.

ALWAYS.

TELLING ME DIRECTLY & SINCERELY WHAT HER HEART WAS THINKING.

IN THAT ORIGINALLY COLD WORLD OF MINE, A WARM RAY OF SUNSHINE HAD APPEARED.

I HAVE REALISED THAT WHEN-EVER I'M WITH HER,

YET, ALL I CAN REPAY HER WITH IS AN ENDLESS LOAD OF BURDEN.

WHAT'S WORSE IS THAT I CAN'T EVEN PROTECT HER WHEN SHE'S IN DANGER.

—BUT,

TO HELP ME, SHE TIRES HERSELF OUT.

NOW I AM BEGINNING TO WONDER IF, PERHAPS, I MADE A MISTAKE THEN...

ARE WE REALLY COMPATIBLE FOR A RELATIONSHIP?

THIS IS THE TOP-MOST RESPONSIBILITY OF A COUPLE.

...DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS ON YOUR OWN.

YOU SHOULD FIRST HEAR THE OTHER PARTY'S THOUGHTS & FEELINGS.

WILL HE STILL COME TODAY?

...I HAVEN'T HAD A GOOD TALK WITH HIM SINCE I WOKE UP.

IS AYUKAWA STILL AT WORK...?

LET'S GO BY WHEEL-CHAIR.

KAWANA-SAN, IT'S TIME FOR YOUR CHECK-UP.

IT'S JUST THAT MY LINE OF SIGHT HAS BEEN LOW-ERED,

.....

YET THE SCENE BEFORE MY EYES IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...

OH RIGHT, AFTER THE CHECK-UP——

TAKE HER TO ROOM 3.

OKAY.

YET HE HAS ALREADY SURPASSED THIS OBSTACLE,

AND RE-ENTERED SOCIETY.

EVERYTHING AROUND ME SEEMS TO HAVE GOTTEN BIGGER...

IT FEELS REALLY UNEASY...

THE THOUGHT OF GOING OUTSIDE ON A WHEELCHAIR MAKES ME UNCONTROLLABLY FRIGHTENED.

AYUKAWA,

I WANT TO SEE YOU...

Unhappy

PLEASE JUST OBEDIENTLY STAY IN YOUR ROOM.

BUT DADDY ISN'T HERE YET...

DON'T BOUNCE THE BALL AGAINST THE WALL.

KOTA-KUN!

Bounce

Bounce

Aha ha...

Bounce

Bounce

You can lob it faster—

I SEE, THAT'S GREAT.

PRACTICE EVERY DAY.

BECAUSE I WANT TO QUICKLY BE ON THE COURT IN COMPETITIONS, I

THAT'S RIGHT!

YOU'RE NOT BAD.

DO YOU PRACTICE EVERYDAY WITH YOUR DAD?

CATCH

Bye bye—

Ahahahaha

YES.

I ALSO HAVE EXPERIENCE PLAYING BASKETBALL DURING HIGH SCHOOL.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL?

SINCE I PLAY BASKETBALL REGULARLY.

AH... IF IT'S JUST LOBBING AND CATCHING, I HAVE NO PROBLEM

I SEE...

I ALSO PLAYED BASKETBALL DURING MY UNIVERSITY DAYS.

YEAH,

MY CURRENT FORM MAY NOT BE MUCH, BUT I USED TO BE A SPORTS FREAK IN THE PAST.

YOU PLAYED BASKETBALL BEFORE AS WELL?

YOUR MOVEMENTS ARE VERY FLEXIBLE

TO BE ABLE TO LOB AND CATCH THE BALL WHILE SITTING ON A WHEELCHAIR.

AH...!

BOW

.....

I HAVE NO IDEA WHO THIS CHILD—TSUGUMI—TAKES AFTER.

SHE HAS NO KNACK FOR SPORTS AT ALL.

BECAUSE OF SKIING?

SHE WAS BORN IN A PLACE FULL OF SNOW YET NO MATTER WHAT, SHE COULD NEVER LEARN TO SKI.

SPEAKING OF WHICH,

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THAT CHILD GOT A FRACTURE...

BECAUSE OF THIS, SHE ALSO FRACTURED HER LEG WHEN SHE WAS YOUNGER.

Tsugumi's leg hurts...

HWAHH—

WHERE DOES IT HURT!?

WHAT HAPPENED??

Really hurts~~~~

HWAHH—

Dad—dy——

Dad——dy——

TSUGUMI!!

sob

sob

DON'T BE AFRAID!!

IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY!

DADDY WILL TAKE YOU TO THE HOS-PITAL.

I RISKED THE WIND AND SNOW AND CA-RRIED HER,

RUNNING FRANTICALLY DOWN THE MOUNTAIN

ALL THE WAY,

SHE WAS CONTINUOUSLY CRYING UPON MY BACK AND SAYING IT HURTS...

THE FACT THAT SHE STILL LIVES IS ALREADY A BIG BLESSING.

THE SITUATION THIS TIME,

CANNOT EVEN BE COMPARED TO THAT TIME.

AYUKAWA-SAN!!

I'M BEGGING YOU

BREAK UP WITH MY DAUGHTER!!

I BEG OF YOU

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO TSUGUMI NOW,

THESE OLD BONES OF MINE WON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO CARRY HER TO THE HOSPITAL ANYMORE.

LAST YEAR,

I HAD AN OPER-ATION.

AFTER THE OPERATION, MY KIDNEY HAS NOT BE-EN GOOD.

EVERYDAY, I GET EASILY FATIGUED.

...TSUGUMI IS MY YOUNG-EST CHILD

AND MY ONLY DAUGHTER.

OUR WHOLE FAMILY TAKES HER AS OUR TREASURED JEWEL.

MOST PROB-ABLY BECAUSE OF THIS, SHE TREATS EVERY-ONE WITH SIN-CERITY AND HONESTY.

I CAN'T SEE HER SUPPORTING A DISABLED FAMILY AT ALL!!

BUT ON THE FLIP-SIDE,

AS A LEADER, SHE'S VERY CLUELESS AND NAIVE AND ALSO VERY SENSITIVE.

I KNOW IT MUST NOT HAVE BEEN EASY FOR YOU, AND YOU MUST HAVE GONE THROUGH MUCH PAIN AND SUFFERING TO GET TO TODAY,

BUT-

BUT THERE'S NO WAY

A DISABLED PERSON AT THAT...

I CAN GIVE MY DAUGHTER TO A PERSON WHO CAN'T REPLACE ME AND CARRY HER FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE!

...PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEAD

SIR ...

—

T/N: YOUR PARENTS HAPPENED!

WHAT HAPPENED ...?

AYU-KAWA... IS NOT PICKING UP

AND ALSO NOT REPLYING ON LINE...

(DUDU) DIALING

(DUDU) DIALING

Talking room

I'm really insecure now.

I want to see you...

Monday, I'm going back to our hometown.

What are you doing now?

Ayukawa,

being unable to contact you makes me uneasy...

Before that, I want to see you one more time.

I BELIEVE THERE'LL BE SOMEONE MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU.

SLIDE

BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

THAT CHILD IS TOO WEAK.

I SEE...

YOU GUYS SHOULD BREAK UP.

PR NOTE: AAANNDD BITCH-SAN HITS A HOMERUN/ BITCH-SAN 1, KAWANA 0.

I CANNOT BRING ANY MORE TROUBLE TO THOSE AROUND ME.

I ALSO CANNOT ADD MORE LOAD ONTO KAWANA.

I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

TN: Do you? Cos I don't think you do!

YOU MUST GET WELL SOON.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP THESE LAST FEW DAYS.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THANKS.

MUM, GIVE ME THE LUGGAGE FIRST.

OKAY, LET'S GO.

THANKS, ONII-CHAN ...

I WILL MEET AND HAVE A GOOD TALK WITH HER.

and this

I'll take this

...AYU-KAWA!

!?

CLICK

AYU-KAWA!!

AYU-KAWA----!!

NO.

.....

IDIOT...

DON'T MOVE SO FAST...

YOU CAME TO SEND ME OFF RIGHT?

I'M SO HAPPY!!

PR NOTE: *CUTENESS OVERLOAD*// 1 POINT TO KAWANA/

LOOK,

WE'RE THE SAME HEIGHT NOW.

.....

WILL YOU WAIT FOR ME TO RE-TURN?

AND I'M A LITTLE HAPPY.

I FEEL LIKE I'VE GOTTEN CLOSER TO YOU

PR NOTE: KAWANA THROWS THE "EMOTIONAL BLACKMAIL" BALL IN FULL SWING!

I'LL ONLY BE GONE FOR A FEW DAYS...

AND I WILL RETURN QUICKLY...

YOU MUST WAIT FOR ME TO RE-TURN.

DON'T LEAVE ME.....

PR NOTE: AND AYUKAWA CATCHES THE BAIT!!! KAWANA 3, BITCH-SAN 1

T/N: MY FEELS!!! TAKE MY HEART AND SOUL!!

...I WILL GO FIND YOU.

I WILL DEFINITELY NOT LET GO.

IF I LET GO OF HER HAND,

IT'S A PROMISE...

THEN MY WORLD, IN THAT ONE MOMENT WILL SHATTER.